Approval of projects for Construction of New National Highways in Gujarat

7891. SHRIMATI ANANDIBEN JETHABHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of projects regarding construction of new national highways that have been recommended by Government of Gujarat to the Central Government during the last two years;

(b) whether the Central Government have accorded approval to all of the projects of the State Government; and

(c) if not, by when these project will be accorded approval by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c) The Government of Gujarat have recommended ten State Roads for declaration of new National Highways in the 8th Five Year Plan. However, owing to financial stringency under the Central Sector Roads programme, it is not possible to declare new National Highway in any State including Gujarat at present.

Declaration of new National Highways in Gujarat

7892. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposals for declaring new National Highways in Gujarat State, if so, which roads are proposed to be declared as national Highways; and

(b) by when such roads are to be declared as NHs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) The Government of Gujarat have sent certain proposals for inclusion in the National Highway grid in 8th Five Year Plan. However, owing to meagre allocation of funds for National Highways in the current Plan, it is difficult to specify the position for new National Highways in any State including Gujarat at this point of time.

Shifting of Headquarters of D.G. Light House from R.K. Puram to NOIDA

7893. SHRI PASUMPON THA. KIRUTTINAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is any proposal under Government's consideration to shift the Headquarters of D.G. Light House from R.K. Puram to NOIDA;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact taht 162 dwelling units have been purchased in Sector 34, NOIDA for allotment to Light House staff; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor when the construction of Office building has not yet started and there are only 105 employees presently working against the sanctioned strength of 122 and most of them are having General Pool accommodation in Delhi or are having personal residence in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Cabinet Committee on Accommodation in its meeting held on 7.5.1987 took a decision that the Department of Lighthouses and Lightships may be requested to shift as soon as the acommodation at NOIDA becomes available.

(c) The Department had requested for allotment of 163 various types of quarters under NOIDA's Housing Schemes. NOIDA have allotted 148 quarters so far. The payment for 6 more quarters has also been made.

(d) The work for the construction of

Office Building has been entrusted to C.P.W.D. The facility of allotment of General Pool Accommodation to officers and staff by the Estate Office will be discontinued after the office is fully shifted to NOIDA.

Steps to make Full use of Inland Water Transport System

7894. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have urged the State Governments to create industrial belts near major rivers of the country so that freight could be carried by inland water transport system;

(b) if so, whether on the direction of the Central Government any State Government have set up industrial belts near major rivers;

(c) whether the inland water transport system is diminishing day by day; and

(d) if not, what concrete steps Government propose to take to make full use of inland water transport system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The question of advising the State Governments to create industrial belts near major rivers of the country is being examined.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) As per policy of the Government of India, major waterways are to be developed as National Waterways with adequate facilites such as channel marking, navigation facilities, terminals, etc., in a phased manner. There are incentive schemes also to attract private Inland Water Transport operators.

Construction of a Deep Water Port at Kakinada

7895. SHRI AHMED MOHMEDBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a deep water port would be constructed at kakinada with Rs. 300 Crore assistance from Asian Development Bank;

(b) if so, what is the total aid the ADB has agreed to provide;

(c) by when the port is likely to be completed;

(d) to what extent the construction of the port would facilitate the handling of cargo; and

(e) by when the port is likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) A deep water port is under construction at Kakinada for which a loan assistance of US$ 77.9 million is being provided by Asian Development Bank.

(c) The project is expected to be completed by August, 1996.

(d) On completion of the Project, the Port is expected to handle an additional quantity of 3 million tonnes of cargo per annum.

(e) The new port facilities are likely to be commissioned on completion of the Project by August, 1996.

बिहार के कुछ क्षेत्रों में फेरी सेवाओं का शुरू किया जाना

7896. श्री जनार्दन यादव: क्या जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार बिहार में बरारी और महादेवपुर घाट, कहलगांव और काठगांव के बीच और साहिबगंज और मनिहारी के बीच फेरी सेवा आरम्भ करने का विचार रखती है।

(ख) यदि हां, तो कब तक; और